



Dave Geraci
Project Manager

AB 565 (14X)
Asset Management #61-258
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June 5, 2003



Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
Attn: Ms. Rini Ghosh
1925 "K" Street NW -Suite 534
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: NY 333 – NYC Proposed Abandonment and CSXT Proposed Discontinuance of Service – Northeast Region, Albany Division, Selkirk Subdivision, between Milepost QGW 159.6 and Milepost QGW 165.9, a distance of 6.3 miles between South Amsterdam, Montgomery County and Rotterdam Junction, Schenectady County, New York.
Docket AB-565 (Sub-No. 14X)
Docket AB-55 (Sub-No. 629X)

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

This refers to CSX Transportation's Notice of Exemption filed on February 28, 2003 requesting authority to abandon and discontinue service on its line of railroad as described above.

Your attention is called to the attached letter received from Mr. Paul Ray of the United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Services, Syracuse, NY stating *"The Natural Resources Conservation Service...does not anticipate any negative impact of the proposed abandonment on prime farmlands or farmlands of statewide importance."*

Sincerely,

Attachment

Copy:

Ms. N.S. Rosenberg, Counsel, CSXT, 500 Water Street – J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
The Galleries of Syracuse
441 S. Salina Street, Suite 354
Syracuse, New York 13202-2450

Telephone: (315) 477-6532
FAX: (315) 477-6550
email: paul.ray@ny.usda.gov

May 29, 2003

Mr. Dave Geraci
CSX Transportation
500 Water Street – J200
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Re: Service Discontinuance and Abandonment of Rail Line; South Amsterdam to Rotterdam
Junction, New York

Dear Mr. Geraci,

I am receipt of your letter dated January 22, 2003 concerning the project cited above.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service, formerly the Soil Conservation Service, does not anticipate any negative impact of the proposed abandonment on prime farmlands or farmlands of statewide importance.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Ray", is written over a horizontal line.

PAUL A. RAY
Resource Conservationist

Attachment

Cc: Thomas Bielli, District Conservationist, NRCS, Fultonville, NY
Richard Martin, District Conservationist, NRCS, Cobleskill, NY